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From Monday May 23. to Thursday May 26. 1709.

At the Court at St. James's, May 19, 1709.

PRESENT,

The Queen's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

UPON reading this Day at the Board a Report from Mr. Attorney-General, upon the Petition of the Master, Wardens and Assistants and Brethren of the Trinity-House of Deptford Strond, praying That an Order of Council made in 1665 may be renewed, for Exempting them from serving in the Militia (the Lieutenancies having of late Summoned them to serve in the Militia, and for refusing so to do have fined some of them as Defaulters) which was taken into Consideration; and it appearing, by divers Charters granted by Her Majesty's Royal Predecessors, that for these Hundred Years and more they have been Exempted from serving in the Militia, or being Contributary thereunto, by reason the Petitioners with their Ships and Servants are at an Hour's warning to be commanded out to Sea for Defence of Her Majesty's Kingdoms; and also, in Cases of Necessity, are to serve in the Militia, provided they be thereunto required by Warrant from six of Her Majesty's Privy-Council, whereof the Lord High-Admiral to be one, as by their Charter more at large appears. Her Majesty thereupon, with the Advice of Her Privy-Council, was pleased to Order, and it is hereby accordingly Ordered, That the said Master, Wardens, Assistants, and Brethren of Trinity-House of Deptford Strond shall enjoy their ancient Privileges, and that they and every of them be Exempt and Freed from all manner of Duties and Services to be performed in the Militia, or any Tax to be paid thereunto, as to their Persons, their Offices, or any House or Houses belonging to their Offices (except they shall be thereunto commanded by Warrant from this Board) and from all Fines and Penalties to be imposed upon them or any of them for the same; whereof Her Majesty's Lieutenants and their Deputies, and all others whom it may concern, are required to take notice, and conform to this Signification.

Edward Southwell.

Venice, May 17. N. S. The Duke of Uzeda left Rome on the 8th Instant; as did the Cardinal del Giudice on the 11th following. They designed to embark on Board the Pope's Gallies at Civita Vecchia. General d'Autan, with a Battalion of Avignonese Soldiers, are to be transported also in those Vessels to Marseilles. On Saturday last arrived here the Duke of Guastalla. The three Examiners of the Administration of the late Doge were chosen the same Day. His Effigies was carried on the Monday following with great Pomp to the Church of St. John and St. Paul, and placed in a magnificent Tomb erected for that purpose. The next Day the youngest Senator, and one of the Chief of the Forty, went down from the great Council to the Church of St. Mark, out of which they took a Boy to draw the Balls: The several Ballotings being ended, the Forty one Electors are now to withdraw, and be locked up 'till they have chosen a Doge.

Vienna, May 18. N. S. We hear from Inspruck, that the King of Denmark was expected there on the 15th Instant. Count Lamberg, Governor of Upper Austria, is gone to Linz, there to wait on his Danish Majesty, in case he takes that Place in his way to Dresden. The Danish Troops in Hungary are all marching to the Island of Schut, where they are to be reviewed on the 21st of this Month by General Reventlau, who is to make a Report to his Danish Majesty at Dresden of the present Condition the Troops are in. They are computed to be about 3600 effective Men. The Investiture of the Bishoprick of Lubeck was given some Days ago to the Duke of Holstein's Minister residing at this Court. Count Kinski, Great Chancellor of Bohemia, since his Return from Prague, has been added to the Members of the Secret Conference. The Hungarian Malecontents making frequent Excursions on this side the Danube, the Inhabitants about Oedenburg and Raab have been forced to agree with Count Esterhasi, the Hungarian General, to pay Contribution for a Liberty to cultivate their Lands and Vineyards without Molestation.

Berne, May 18. N. S. The General Diet of the Cantons, which is called together to settle the Affair of Toggenburg, is to meet on the 23d Instant. The Princess Dowager of Conti hath lately written a Letter to this Canton, to acquaint them, that her late Husband having by Will bequeathed his Right and Pretensions to the Principality of Neufchatel to his Son, she thought it necessary to send them a Copy of the said Will, as well to take away all Pretence to a Prescription, as in hopes this Canton would continue to her Son the same Love and Affection which they bore to his Father.

Dartmouth, May 22. Yesterday in the Afternoon came from the Westward about 100 Sail of Ships, being the Mast ships from New-England, under Convoy of the Falmouth. The Arundel came in also with Coasters from Plimouth, who took off of the Stert a small Privateer which lay there at Anchor as the Fleet came up. All these are gone to the Eastward. Her Majesty's Ships the Southampton and Lizard, with several loaden Colliers from Wales, are put into Torbay. The Crown, Saphir and Rye, with the Transports and Merchant-ships bound for the West-Indies, are still in Torbay.

Portsmouth, May 24. Yesterday arrived at Spithead her Majesty's Ships the Southampton, Lizard, Falmouth, Arundel, and the Express Advice-boat, with about forty Sail of Transports, Merchantmen and Coasters under their Convoy, from Plimouth; the Transports having two Regiments of Soldiers on Board. Admiral Baker, with his Squadron, continues still at Spithead.

Admiralty-Office, May 24. Her Majesty's Ship the Falmouth, of 50 Guns, commanded by Capt. Walter Ryddell, in her Passage from New-England, with some Ships loaden with Masts, and others under her Convoy, was, on the 18th of this Month, attacked by a French Ship of War of 60 Guns, about 24 Leagues from Scilly; and Capt. Ryddell perceiving that the Enemy did intend to board him, he filled his Head-sails, and laid her on Board under her Bolt-sprit, directly athwart her Hawse, and raked her fore and aft with his Cannon. The Enemy continued in this Posture about an hour and a half; during which time he entred many Men, but they were repulsed; however the number of Men on Board her being much greater than those in the Falmouth, it occasioned various Turns, but at length he thought fit to retire, having first cut all the Land yards of the Falmouth's Fore and Mizen shrowds, believing it might prevent her following to rescue the Convoys which the Enemy stood after; notwithstanding which, Capt. Ryddell did with such Diligence follow him, as enabled him to preserve them, and to bring them into Plimouth. In this Action the Falmouth had 13 Men killed and 56 wounded, the Captain himself received a Wound in his right Leg, and several other Hurts, and the second Lieutenant, and Mr. Lawrence, one of the Volunteers, were shot through the Body. The Falmouth had on Board her 200 l. of New-England Mony at the time of the Engagement.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Pembroke, Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, &c. doth hereby direct and require, That all the Men belonging to Her Majesty's Ship the Royal Anne Galley, building at Woolwich, do repair Aboard Her Majesty's Ship Orford at that Place, on Monday the 6th of June next, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril.

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